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ROUTING			
TO:	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	ISD/VPB/BCS		
2			
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4			
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
REMARKS:			
			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS, AND PHONE NO.			DATE

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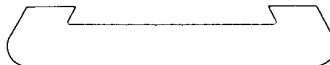
(See inside cover)

CONTROL NO. 2-15205/82COPY 80 OF 40**Warning Notice**

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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

NOFORN-	Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals
NOCONTRACT-	Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants
PROPIN-	Caution-Proprietary Information Involved
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Attachment to Z-15205/82

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NPIC/IEG (4/82)

21 APRIL 1982

ETHIOPIAN OFFENSIVE
AFABET-NACFA, ETHIOPIA

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1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: AN ETHIOPIAN FORCE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED ON IMAGERY [] WITHIN 7 NM OF NACFA. 25X1
2. (S/D) REMARKS: THE ETHIOPIANS APPEAR TO BE PREPARING TO ATTACK THE ERITREAN STRONGHOLD AT NACFA FROM THE EAST. PRIOR ETHIOPIAN OFFENSES AGAINST NACFA HAVE BEEN STAGED FROM THE SOUTH ALONG THE AFABET-NACFA ROAD. THAT ROAD PROGRESSES NORTH THROUGH FAIRLY RUGGED TERRAIN. THE 1978-79 ETHIOPIAN OFFENSIVE STALLED ON THIS ROAD.

(S/D) APPROXIMATELY 10 NM NORTH OF AFABET AT 16-20-20N 038-37-40E THE ETHIOPIANS HAVE ESTABLISHED A POSSIBLE CHECKPOINT. NINE TRUCKS/VEHICLES AND A PROBABLE TENT WERE AT THE POSSIBLE CHECKPOINT ON [] VEHICLES AND RECENT TRACKAGE INDICATE THAT THE ETHIOPIAN'S HAD MOVED EAST FROM THIS POINT AND THEN NORTH ONTO FLATTER TERRAIN EAST AND SOUTHEAST OF NACFA. A TOTAL OF 45 TRUCKS/VEHICLES IN TWO CONVOYS (18 TRUCKS/VEHICLES IN ONE CONVOY AND 27 IN THE OTHER) AND 11 ADDITIONAL TRUCKS/VEHICLES WERE TRANSITING THIS ROUTE BETWEEN AFABET AND TWO VEHICLE CONCENTRATIONS. ONE VEHICLE CONCENTRATION CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY 20 TRUCKS/VEHICLES AND A LARGE, RECTANGULAR, CLEARED AREA HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED APPROXIMATELY 13 NM SOUTHEAST OF NACFA. THE SECOND CONCENTRATION CONSISTING OF ONE MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHER BATTALION, ONE HIP C, AT LEAST 115 TRUCKS/VEHICLES, AND A GRADED-EARTH RUNWAY HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED 7 NM EAST OF NACFA. VEHICLE TRACKAGE INDICATES THAT THE ETHIOPIAN'S MAY HAVE PENETRATED CLOSER TO NACFA.

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(S/D) NO EVIDENCE OF ETHIOPIAN EQUIPMENT CONCENTRATIONS COULD BE IDENTIFIED ALONG THE AFABET-NACFA ROAD NORTH OF THE POSSIBLE CHECKPOINT. IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER ACTIVITY, A SIX-GUN 122MM HOWITZER D-30 BATTERY, WHICH HAD BEEN FIELD DEPLOYED 23 NM SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF NACFA AT 16-14-10N 038-35-00E IN MID-FEBRUARY, WAS IN TRAVEL MODE APPROXIMATELY 5 NM WEST OF THE POSSIBLE CHECKPOINT. []

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3. (S) []

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